

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MONTEV 04295 081632Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /028 W
-----015287 081746Z /53

P R 081438Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4705
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO HQ, USSOUTHCOM SCJ-2

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 4295

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OREP/UY (MANN/SCHLUNDT)
SUBJ: STAFFDEL MANN/SCHLUNDT MEETING WITH MILITARY CINCS

1. SUMMARY. STAFFDEL MANN/SCHLUNDT ACCOMPANIED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EMBASSY, MET SEPTEMBER 6 WITH THE THREE MILITARY SERVICE COMMANDERS OF URUGUAY AND THE CHIEF OF THE JOINT STAFF. THE MEETING WAS PROPOSED TO THE CINCS BY AMBASSADOR PEZZULLO TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE TWO CONGRESSIONAL AIDES AT A CONSULAR CONFERENCE AND TO ALLOW THEM INFORMALLY TO BRIEF THE COMMANDERS ON THE CONGRESSIONAL PROCESS AND HOW PUBLIC OPINION COMES TO BEAR IN THE MAKING OF LEGISLATION. THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING SOMEWHAT MISSED THIS MARK, WITH THE COMMANDERS MORE INTENT ON PRESENTING THE NOW FAMILIAR AND STANDARD ARGUMENTS ON WHY URUGUAY HAS RECEIVED A NEGATIVE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE AND HOW THE COUNTRY IS THE OBJECT OF AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY AGAINST WHICH URUGUAY DOES NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES TO DEFEND ITSELF. THE CINCS NEVERTHELESS RECEIVED AN INITIAL EXPOSURE TO CONGRESSIONAL STAFF AND TO SOME OF THE THINKING BEHIND CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS AND ACTIONS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD. END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MONTEV 04295 081632Z

2. JANEAN MANN AND VIRGINIA SCHLUNDT (STAFF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE-HIRC) ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHARGE, ARMA/ACTING DATT, AND AIRA MET WITH ARMY CINC LTG VADORA, AIR FORCE CINC BG PALADINI, NAVY CINC ADM MARQUEZ (WHO STAYED FOR ONLY 15 MINUTES) AND CHIEF OF THE JOINT STAFF ADM SANGURGO AT JOINT STAFF HEADQUARTERS ON SEPTEMBER 6.

3. THE HIRC STAFF MEMBERS BEGAN THE MEETING BY STATING WHO THEY WERE, WHAT THEY DID, AND WHY THEY WERE IN URUGUAY. THEY THEN OFFERED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THE CINCS MIGHT HAVE AND TO LISTEN TO THEIR VIEWS. ADM MARQUEZ IMMEDIATELY TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY AND DIRECTED THE DISCUSSION TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE PROBLEMS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THE U.S. AND URUGUAY. THE THEME WAS THEN PICKED UP BY GEN VADORA, WHO DOMINATED THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING WITH QUESTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS DIRECTLY RELATED TO SUBVERSION IN URUGUAY AND THE LACK OF U.S. SUPPORT BECAUSE OF ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. ALL THE URUGUAYAN QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS WERE REPEATS OF FAMILIAR THEMES: INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS; THE INABILITY OF A SMALL COUNTRY LIKE URUGUAY TO TOLERATE A SUBVERSIVE THREAT DUE TO MINIMAL RESOURCES; THE MASSIVE PROPAGANDA EFFORT AGAINST THE COUNTRY WHICH CANNOT BE COUNTERED WITH URUGUAY'S LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES; THE CHARGE THAT URUGUAY HAD HISTORICALLY SUPPORTED THE U.S. WHILE THE U.S. WAS NOW ACCEPTING THE CRITICISM OF URUGUAY'S ENEMIES WITHOUT TAKING DUE ACCOUNT OF THE REAL CONDITIONS WITHIN THE COUNTRY; THE PLEA THAT URUGUAY WAS LOOKING FOR THE U.S. TO UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT WAS DONE WAS TO SAVE THE COUNTRY AND ITS INSTITUTIONS; ETC. AIR FORCE CINC PALADINI WAS SILENT THROUGHOUT THE MEETING.

4. THE HIRC STAFF MEMBERS RESPONDED TO THE QUESTIONS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MONTEV 04295 081632Z

COMMENTS OF THE URUGUAYAN OFFICERS INDICATING THAT THERE WAS NO INTENT TO INTERFERE IN URUGUAY'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND EMPHASIZING THAT CONGRESS' CONCERN AND ACTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS WERE WORLDWIDE AND DIRECTED AT ALL COUNTRIES AND ESPECIALLY AT THE USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE. THEY ALSO COMMENTED THAT (A) THE SOURCES OF INFORMATION WHICH CONGRESS USES ARE NUMEROUS AND MEMBERS DO NOT RELY SOLELY ON ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, AND (B) THE HIRC DOES LACK INFORMATION ON URUGUAY, BUT THAT WAS EQUALLY URUGUAY'S FAULT SINCE IT HAS NOT AVAILED ITSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH CONGRESSMEN AND COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES. AT ONE POINT DURING THE MEETING A CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER ASKED GEN VADORA WHAT THE THREAT TO URUGUAY WAS. VADORA REPLIED THAT ARMED SUBVERSION WAS COMPLETELY UNDER CONTROL, BUT THE CURRENT THREAT TOOK THE FORM OF PROPAGANDA AGAINST THE COUNTRY, AND THIS PROPAGANDA EFFORT HAD HAD A SEVERE IMPACT. TOWARD THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING GEN VADORA EXTENDED AN OPEN INVITATION TO ANYONE, INCLUDING CONGRESSMEN, TO VISIT URUGUAY TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE REALITIES OF THE COUNTRY. THE HIRC STAFFERS RECIPROCATED, INVITING THE URUGUAYANS TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO VISIT THE U.S. AND THE CONGRESS. AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING GEN VADORA RE-

QUESTED THE CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS TO PROVIDE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PROCESS TO SELECTED SENIOR OFFICERS WHO WOULD BE ATTENDING A FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCE. (REPORTED SEPTTEL).

5. COMMENT. THROUGHOUT THE MEETING THE SERVICE COMMANDERS APPEARED TO BE OVERLY COURTEOUS AND SOMEWHAT RESERVED IN ASKING QUESTIONS, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO THE FACT THAT THEY WERE DEALING WITH YOUNGER WOMEN ON A PROFESSIONAL LEVEL WHICH IS AN "UNKNOWN" FOR THEM. BECAUSE THE MEETING WAS MAINLY DIRECTED TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS, THE CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS WERE NOT ABLE TO IMPART MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL PROCESS. THE MEETING PROBABLY DID LITTLE TO ALTER THE THINKING OF THE URUGUAYAN CINCS. HOWEVER IT DID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MONTEV 04295 081632Z

PROVIDE THE CINCS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH PERSONS WORKING WITHIN AN IMPORTANT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE AND DEMONSTRATED TO THEM THAT URUGUAY HAD TO DO MUCH MORE IF IT WANTED TO HAVE ITS CASE FULLY AND FAIRLY PRESENTED IN THE U.S.

6. THIS IS A JOINT STATE DOD MESSAGE WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH STAFFDEL.
CHEEK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CODELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MONTEV04295
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770325-0843
Format: TEL
From: MONTEVIDEO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770986/aaaacuvvg.tel
Line Count: 145
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c86baa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1349315
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAFFDEL MANN/SCHLUNDT MEETING WITH MILITARY CINCS
TAGS: OREP, UY
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c86baa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009